

Battle of Plattsburgh (BOP) Committee
Meeting via ZOOM

Thursday, April 22, 2021
4:00 pm-5:17pm

Board Members Present:

Tom Donahue
Richard Frost
Wendy Gilchrist
Jim Guinness
Charles Loscalzo
Tim Horn
Judy Lefebvre
Emily Moosmann
PJ Miller
Lana Putnam
Chris Ransom
Mary Simmers
Linda Masterson Ward

Board Members Not Present:

Forrest Edwards
Vicki Giroux
Samantha Williams

Committee Members Present:

Julie Baughn
Geri Favreau
Keith Herkalo
Diane Kwarta
Bruce Moore
Stan Ransom

Committee Members Not Present:

Kris Portal
Vince Puliafico
Mark Sand

Advisors Present:

Bruce Carlin

Advisors Not Present:

Kit Booth
Craig Russell

Gary VanCour

Welcome and Agenda

President, Tom Donahue called the meeting of the Battle of Plattsburgh to order at 4:00pm and welcomed everyone.

He said that we have reserved the room in the Government Center for person, face-to-face meetings with appropriate COVID spacing. He is also planning to have zoom available for those who cannot attend in person. The next meeting would be Thursday, May 13 at 4pm,

Tom Donahue

Meeting Structure

Tom thanked everyone for sending in their reports. He said that each person will have 5 minutes to report on their areas and then we will have questions at the end.

City

Tom said Skippy gave him a fee schedule for the use of the city venues which was passed by the City Council on April 15, 2021. It includes costs per each venue, personnel, EMS, Security, cones, garbage bags, overtime, etc. Tom is trying to find out if this applies to the Battle of Plattsburgh.

Tents

Tom reported that we have quotes on tents from Foster and have asked for quotes from Taylor.

Sponsorship

Tom asked that all committee and board members make phone calls to possible sponsors in May.

Singer

Tom mentioned that a singer, Latalia Dull contacted him about singing the National Anthem at the Commemoration.

Fireworks

Eric Eagle feather will pay for the fireworks on Friday night

Underground Railroad

The Underground Railroad will be involved with the Commemoration.

Rich Frost

History Talks

Rich has 4 speakers confirmed for 4 talks on:

1. Aikins Rifle
2. Afro Americans at the Battle of Plattsburgh
3. Fate of British Ships at the Battle of Plattsburgh
4. What was Happening on the Niagara Frontier During the War of 1812

He is tentatively planning for 2 talks downtown on Friday night and 2 talks on Saturday morning. For downtown he prefers the Auditorium at City Hall. His other choices are the Episcopal Church or the Middle School. For Saturday he is considering first the 1814 Museum Auditorium. Second, the Chapel on the Oval and third the CCH Association. There might be a charge for the chapel, but it is possible that we might be able to arrange the fee be considered their donation to the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. The room in CCH is probably not big enough. Rich asked for feedback on his choices.

Mary Simmers**Sponsorship**

Mary reported that Alice Sample distributed packages of information to the funeral homes including Walkers, Brown and Heald. Jay Heald said that “they” could all get together and decide on sponsorship.

Cannon Ball Run

Mary reported her discussion with Steve Peters who organizes runs. Steve suggested that the best day for a 5K run is Saturday. One idea was a run beginning at 8:30am at Trinity Park. This would allow run participants to be finished with the run and able to participate in other activities on Saturday. We would need to provide a liaison to work with Steve Peters. There is a charge, and he needs a “good faith” deposit. The cost would be \$450. The event could be a money maker. Suggested registration was \$20. for advance registration and \$25. for late registration. We need to get on Steve’s calendar as soon as possible if we are interested. We will need to get a permit. Boy Scouts could assist. Mark Sands mentioned that his Boy Scouts could probably assist.

Emily Moosmann**Mall – Promotion**

Emily is working with Linda Ward on promotion in the mall. Currently they are working on a large banner that will promote the web site and the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. John Momont is doing this for us. They are also planning a display a little later.

Rotary

Bed races may be problematic since when the students return to campus in the fall is not clearly know yet due to COVID. There is talk about a 2-person race with Ro Ducky and Burghy. The probably might not be doing the Ro Ducky Derby. Vicki will contact Rotary.

Children’s Entertainments

Emily will help Linda with this.

Wendy Gilchrist**Entertainment – Musicians**

Wendy mentioned several questions including what is happening at Valcour and Harborside with Benjamin Pomerance. She said that Bear Tracks will cost \$1200. for 3 hours. They are considering Friday night on City Hall Steps maybe starting at 8pm? Towne Meeting will cost \$500. Wendy is thinking of Trinity Park from about 4pm to 7pm on Friday night. Bear Tracks could be after them. She needs a tent in Trinity Park for Town Meeting on Friday night. Too Tall String Band will cost \$350. All the musicians will require a sound system with one exception. Towne Meeting could use their own sound system if they were the only concert/show for Friday.

Macomb Ball

Wendy reported that currently there are no dances or balls due to COVID. She knows of one dance event re opening in November. Wendy prefers the City Rotunda for the ball.

Shape Note Singing

Wendy says this will happen.

Worship Service

Wendy says this will happen.

Lana Putnam**Valcour Brewery**

Lana said that Bill Dashnaw is events coordinator at Valcour Brewing. Lana said that Valcour is willing to provide Sept 9 for the Battle of Plattsburgh. She said that we need to have a meeting with the owner (Mary Theresa) of Valcour to confirm. She has a band that she thinks would work well for Valcour Brewing. It is All Without the Base. It will cost \$300. for 3 hours. We need to book them soon.

Fundraising Downtown

Lana says so far requests have been met positively. She will be meeting with Villari Studios soon.

Tim Horn**Riverside Cemetery Ceremony**

Tim reported that he has the program for Riverside Cemetery Ceremony planned. He has the participants lined up. They need a 20 by 20 open sided tent. He had questions about the invitations including who does them. In the past various people have done them. Sometimes Beth Carlin at the City has sent out invitations to politicians. Linda Wards has often done them. Linda has information on guests to invite. Linda Ward says that Bruce Carlin and/or Megan Charland might help with graphics for the invitations. Linda said that each Special Guests should have a person assigned who will be their contact to help them during the Commemoration. This could be help with hotel reservations and with attendance at the various events during the Commemoration. Linda and Tim will discuss by phone.

Keith Herkalo**1812 Museum**

Keith said that the 1812 Museum is closed. It will be open August, September, and October. He has been in contact with Rich Frost. They need to decide which night the 1812 Museum will be used for history talks. The auditorium in the 1812 Museum can hold 40 people. He will be speaking at the Old Post Cemetery on Sunday night. Helen Nerska contacted him about tours of Oval and Old Post Cemetery.

Judy Lefebvre**Old Post Cemetery Ceremony**

Judy Lefebvre is planning on the Old Post Cemetery ceremony at 4pm on Sunday. Keith Herkalo will be speaking at the Old Post Cemetery on Sunday night. Boy Scouts 8046 will assist. CCHA is working on a tour of the Old Post Cemetery. Judy mentioned that there are repairs needed at the Old Post Cemetery. She also mentioned that we need to contact the Mayor and/or City Council about the ceremony and repairs as the Old Post Cemetery is city property.

Charles Loscalzo

Mall Publicity

Charles will display Battle of Plattsburgh posters in the Book Burgh. He is also planning a permanent exhibit in the store of books related to the Battle of Plattsburgh and historical events. He is reaching out to the SUNY History Department and SUNY Maritime to see how they can be included.

Bruce Moore**Episcopal Church**

Bruce reported that the Vestry has said that we can use the nave of the church for history talks. The maximum capacity is 50 to 60 people. Right now, no food can be allowed but he will continue to follow to see if that changes and if they can have a café.

Diane Kwarta**Sponsorship**

Diane reported that she delivered package to potential sponsors and has been making follow up phone calls with Chris Ransom. Chris and she will continue making phone calls.

Boy Scouts

Diane will bring up the Canon Ball Run and boy scouts assistance at the District Committee meeting.

Jim Guinness**Sponsorship**

Jim reported that he delivered all his sponsorship packages except for one (EZ Storage) which he mailed.

Barber Shoppers

Jim said that the Board of the Barber Shoppers met for the first time in person Tuesday night. Next week the Barber Shoppers will meet in person for the first time. They need to practice but they might be willing to sing for the Commemoration. Tim Horn asked if they could sing at Riverside Cemetery. In the past, they have sung God Bless America and Star-Spangled Banner. Jim said it might be possible

PJ Miller**Reenactors**

PJ said that Canadian reenactors most likely will not be able to come. He has 15 living historians confirmed. They can use the Kent Delord property for up to 25. They are planning demonstrations. They will need about \$1,725. This includes a stipend of \$100. (\$50. Per day). They will also need 2 porta potties and wash station and some of the lights turned out.

Linda Masterson Ward**Poster Contest**

Linda reported on the poster contest which the NYS Art Teachers Association will take care of this year. They will include Essex and Franklin counties this year. 5th grade will be the grade targeted this year. The teachers plan to use circles for the art which will make it easier to convert the winner's poster to the button. They are offering teachers virtual contact with reenactors. Bruce Carlin is posting the posters of past winners on our web site.

Essay Contest

There will not be an essay contest this year. There are not volunteers or time to organize.

Social Media

Linda said that Megan Charland from Link Art will be doing the Social Media. Bruce Carlin is working with Megan.

Children's' Village

Megan will also be active in the Children's' Village.

Daughters of 1812

Linda accidentally contacted the Daughters of 1812. Sharon Bell is a member of Daughters of 1812. Anne Farley from the Daughters of 1812 made a personal donation to the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration of \$500. Linda says that the Daughters will donate up to \$1,000. towards a Wayside sign. Bruce will work with Linda on the Wayside sign.

Plattsburgh Memorial

Linda said there was a communication to Plattsburgh Memorial that led them to believe that we were asking them to repair headstones when we were asking for a donation.

Chamber of Commerce

We are now members and anyone in our group can be included on their email list by requesting. Megan Charland is one of our main contacts with the Chamber. Attending the Chamber's After 5 activities is a good opportunity to network.

Grants

Tom's brother, Bill has helped us with grants. We have some pending. It may take a couple of months to hear.

PR

Courtney Meisenheimer manages the City Well. She will help with PR. First, we need to have confirmation from the City.

Parade

Linda met with Vicki and Tom about the Parade. Vicki said that she will work with the Rotarians who normally assist with the Parade planning and execution, usually beginning work on the Parade in July or July. Linda said that they came up with the theme of *Emerging Communities Coming Together*. Part of this would be inviting all neighboring communities to take part.

Sponsorship

Linda said that we have reached over 300 companies. We will make follow up phone calls in May.

City

Linda suggests that if the City says that they will be charging the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration according to the fee schedule Skippy gave to Tom, we need to attend a City Council Meeting.

18.14 Donation

Capitalize on -maybe a 50-50 raffle or request donations of \$18.14.

Chris and Stan Ransom**Kids Games**

Chris reported that they are ready.

Board and Committee Meetings

This Board and Committee will meet **together** twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 4pm.

The next meeting of the 1814 Battle of Plattsburgh Committee and Board will be Thursday, May 13 at 4pm. We have a room reserved in the Government Center beginning April 29 for in person meetings. It will be spaced for COVID precautions.

Action Items

Tom Donahue

Confirm with City about Commemoration including fee schedule as soon as possible.
Contact the Mayor and/or City Council about the Old Post Cemetery ceremony and repairs as the Old Post Cemetery is city property.

Jim Guinness

Follow up with Barber Shoppers to see if they might sing at Commemoration – maybe at Riverside.

Tim Horn

Speak with Linda Ware about invitations.

Charles Loscalzo

Reaching out to the SUNY History Department and SUNY Maritime to see how they can be included.

Bruce Moore

Continue to follow up with the Episcopal Church to see if food might be allowed and if a café would be possible. Check to see if musical events could be held in the church nave and downstairs.

Lana Putnam

Meet with owner of Valcour Brewing

Linda Masterson Ward

Speak with Tim Horn about invitations.

Everyone

In May make follow up phone calls to potential sponsors.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:17pm

Respectfully submitted:

Chris Ransom, Secretary
Revised April 27, 2021 6:30am

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